(d) The Government already has a scheme known as National Slum Development Programme (NSDP) under which Additional Central Assistance (ACA) is being released to the States / UTs for the development of urban slums. The Scheme is implemented in all States / UTs of the country.

Installation of Statue of Mahatma Gandhi at India Gate

5302. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to install the statue of Mahatma Gandhi near the Canopy at India Gate, New Delhi;

(b) whether any objection have been raised against the installation; and

(c) if so, by whom and what are the reasons given by them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) to (c) A proposal for installation of a statue of Mahatma Gandhi at the India Gate Complex has been under the consideration of the Government. A writ petition has been filed before Delhi High Court by Conservation Society of Delhi against the India Gate Canopy structure being damaged in any manner for installing the statue, on the ground that the Canopy along with the India Gate Complex form part of national heritage. This petition is still pending before the Court for disposal.

News-item "Appropriate land, build on it, get it rgularized"

5303. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMAD KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Appropriate land, build on it, get it regularized" which appeared in the Times of India, dated 21st February, 2000;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that encroachments are, instead of being removed, regularized easily;

(c) if not, the details in this regard; and

(d) what are the plans of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) DDA has reported that the encroachments are regularized only in accordance with the norms prescribed under MPD-2000 if encroacher fulfills all requirements prescribed under DDA (disposal of Developed Nazul Land) Rules, 1981 for allotment of institutional land.

Basic Infrastructure Facilities in Najafgarh Area

5304. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to impress upon the State Government of Delhi to provide basic infrastructure facilities in Najafgarh area, particularly in Jai Vihar, Shyam Vihar and Bhagwati Garden Extension;

(b) if so, the steps being taken to provide electricity, rods and water to the said area; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) to (c) Pursuant to the decision already taken by the Government of NCT of Delhi, basic infrastructure facilities to the extent possible are being provided in these unauthorised colonies by the civic authorities. As such, intervention by the Central Government in this matter is not considered necessary.

Commercial centre near Anand Vihar

†5305. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposed Commercial centre has been constructed on the DDA land adjoining Anand Vihar petrol pump;.

(b) whether the proposal of DDA regarding the development of several hectares of land lying vacant between Anand Vihar DDA flats and Vighyan Lok has since been implemented;

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the said land is posing health menace due to the water logging there; and

(e) whether DDA is planning to include the said land under the proposed road connecting Yamuna Sports Complex and Anand Vihar Bus Terminal?

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.